

GERMANS OPEN BOMBARDMENT TO PAVE WAY FOR DRIVE; ALLIES IMPROVE POSITIONS AS ENEMY FAILS TO ATTACK; BAKER DENIES U. S. ARMY IS TO BE HELD IN RESERVE

GERMAN LOSES U. S. CITIZENSHIP AFTER 35 YEARS

F. W. Wursterbarth, Former Postmaster of Lakeview, Branded Enemy.

WILL AFFECT THOUSANDS

Federal Judge Haight Decides Disloyal Hyphenates Can Be Prosecuted.

Frederick W. Wursterbarth, formerly postmaster of Lakeview, Passaic county, N. J., naturalized thirty-five years ago, no longer is a citizen of the United States. Instead he is an alien enemy, for Judge Thomas G. Haight in the United States District Court at Newark revoked his naturalization papers yesterday.

The case is believed to have but one precedent. Thirty or forty years ago in the West similar action was taken.

Judge Haight, upon hearing evidence of Wursterbarth's disloyalty, decided that when the German took out his naturalization papers and swore that he renounced allegiance to the Kaiser he did not mean it, that his heart still was loyal to the fatherland and that the citizenship, therefore, was obtained by fraud.

The case is regarded as of the utmost importance because it opens a path whereby the Department of Justice can reach pro-Germans who have been immune thus far from internment by reason of their citizenship. These legal Americans but real Germans long have been regarded by Government agents as the most dangerous element in the United States.

Heretofore the speeches and behavior of such hyphenates have been without weight with the Government. They were regarded as of no account. Now it is intimated that similar actions may be instituted against the hundreds of citizens-by-law whose records have been compiled and sent away by the Army and Navy Intelligence Bureau and United States District Attorneys and Marshals everywhere.

Wanted to See Germans Win.

Wursterbarth once was a councilman of Lakeview, besides being postmaster until recently. He kept a stationery and candy store at 148 Crook Avenue, that town. According to his neighbors he refused to aid the Red Cross, T. M. C. A. or the Liberty loans. He said he was justified, that he would not do anything to aid this country's cause and that he did not want to see America win the war. Major Carl Lenta, his neighbor, gave evidence that an appeal will be taken.

When Wursterbarth had a hearing recently before Judge Haight he heard the Government attorneys present stories of his alleged disloyalty. There were men and women among them, persons of undoubted responsibility. There were explanations of his testimony. Wursterbarth or his counsel. The latter did not put the accused man on the stand. He simply argued against the contention of the District Attorney, which was that Wursterbarth had obtained his citizenship papers by fraud, much as he had sworn allegiance to this country and that he was a German when he was naturalized thirty-five years ago, but subsequently had acted in a way to prove his insincerity.

Judge Haight in handing down his decision referred to the facts as presented by the Government and the absence of denial by the defendant. He said:

"The respondent did not attempt to refute or explain any of that testimony. It thus appears, without contradiction, that the respondent, although a citizen of this country, on three separate occasions, after having sworn allegiance to this country, has been guilty of fraud (between each) since the outbreak of the war with Germany went to extreme lengths which clearly indicate that at the time he swore allegiance to this country he was not sincere in so doing and that he recognizes to this country."

Took Oath With Reservations.

While his present state of mind is of course not the main fact in issue, yet at the time the certificate of citizenship was granted to him he retained the one allegiance as to Germany as he now manifestly has, it is not contended, and indeed it would not seem to be debatable, that any other conclusion could be reached than that the certificate had been procured by fraud, because the provisions of the naturalization act at the time the respondent's certificate was granted (Section 3185 of the Revised Statutes) required that he should be admitted to citizenship he should declare on oath that he would support the constitution of the United States and that he would not take any oath or pledge of allegiance and fidelity to any foreign sovereign.

The question, therefore, on which the decision is referred to, is whether he may be legitimately inferred as a fact from his present state of mind, coupled with the circumstances to be found in the present war, or with the reasons which had induced Congress to declare war, but that he holds that position that he would do nothing to injure the country of his birth, and did not wish this country to win the present war because of the ties which bound him to Germany.

"As the years succeeding his naturalization passed, coupled with the fact that

To Hunt Pro-Germans Now Posing as Citizens

WASHINGTON, May 13.—With the Wursterbarth case as a precedent, proceedings will be instituted to revoke the citizenship of all persons born in Germany or other countries, who abuse their citizenship, or who show they are not inclined to respect and keep the oath of allegiance. All courts with the power to grant citizenship have the right to take it away after due process.

Such cases will be handled by the local Federal prosecutors, but in many instances the suggestion that proceedings be started will come from the Department of Justice in Washington.

GERMANS PLAN SUPER U-BOATS

Realize Allies Have Upper Hand, Due to Swift Destroyers.

FIGURES ARE FAVORABLE

Shipyards Here and Abroad Rapidly Getting Ahead in Tonnage.

WASHINGTON, May 13.—Realizing that America and the Allies have gained the mastery over the present type of submarine Germany now is said to be planning a new series of big U-boat cruisers with which she hopes to assume again the advantage in her unrestricted underwater warfare.

Announcement of the new German scheme is made by Georges Leygues, the French Minister of Marine, in an interview received here today in an official despatch from France. The cruiser submarines will be heavily armed and armored and will be designed especially to meet the torpedo boat destroyers which have proved so effective in hunting down the smaller submarines now in operation.

M. Leygues declared that the Allies are ready to meet Germany's new efforts and that they will not rest upon the "fine results obtained" in the past.

To Clean Up Sea.

"We shall not stop," he said, "until we have cleaned up the sea as one cleans up a trench."

Just how effective has been the war against the U-boats is shown by figures on destruction of allied shipping given to the Naval Committee of the French Chamber of Deputies Saturday by Minister Leygues. They reveal that sinkings of merchantmen have fallen off to the point where new construction is exceeding the destruction even before American destroyers were full swing on the great building programme mapped out by the Shipping Board.

The monthly average of destruction this year, as given by M. Leygues, is 315,000 tons, compared with more than 500,000 tons monthly in 1917. In April of last year, the first month of Germany's unrestricted submarine warfare, the tonnage sunk was \$71,000. In April of this year it had dwindled to about 268,000 tons.

On the other hand, the destruction of submarines is exceeding their construction by the enemy, and the margin is expected to increase as additional American destroyers give full swing to the war effort. They reveal that sinkings of submarines have fallen off to the point where new construction is exceeding the destruction even before American destroyers were full swing on the great building programme mapped out by the Shipping Board.

1,262,345 Tons Lost.

The total of allied shipping destroyed in the first four months of 1918 was placed by Minister Leygues at 1,262,345 tons, and even if the submarines are able to maintain this rate, which is doubtful, the year's total would be something like 3,700,000 tons, or less than the estimated amount of tonnage which the Shipping Board believes America will produce during the year.

Adding to American production the output in Great Britain, France and Japan the Allies would gain for the year something like 2,000,000 tons, not counting the 1,000,000 or more tons of chartered Japanese and Norwegian ships and requisitioned Dutch vessels.

While encouraging, officials emphasize the fact that these figures are being turned out rapidly, take their place with the war effort operating in the war zone.

SUBMARINE FIGURES SHOW ALLIED GAINS

French Minister of Marine Gives Table of Losses.

PARIS, May 13.—The German Government is aware of the fact that the effectiveness of the submarine campaign is declining, declared Georges Leygues, Minister of Marine, before the Naval Committee of the Chamber of Deputies on Saturday. He added that the Government had made the greatest efforts to combat it.

Minister Leygues referred to the statement in the Reichstag on April 17 by Vice-Admiral von Capelle, German Minister of Marine, in which he said 600,000 tons of allied shipping were sunk monthly. This figure, the Minister said, was incorrect.

The following comparative table of the tonnage claimed to have been destroyed by Germany and

BAKER'S FRIEND DELAYS SENATE PLANE INQUIRY

Bill Providing Funds Is Held Up Until Secretary Approves It.

BORGUM REMAINS SILENT

Liberty Motor Is Assailed in Statement by New York Engineer.

Special Despatch to The Sun.

WASHINGTON, May 13.—Senator Thompson (Kan.), chairman of the Committee on Audit and Control, through failure to report to the Senate today the Chamberlain resolution providing for the broadening of the inquiry into aircraft production and amplification of the inquisitorial functions of the Military Committee blocked action on that important measure. It was to Senator Thompson's committee that the resolution was referred last week, as its adoption entails heavy drain on the contingent fund.

Leaders of the Senate Military Committee demanded to-day of Senator Thompson what was the matter with their resolution. With astounding calm Senator Thompson said to Senators Chamberlain and Hitchcock: "Why, my committee has not yet acted on the resolution. I wanted to show it to Secretary of War Baker and find out if it was entirely satisfactory to him."

Immediate Action Premised.

For a few minutes it looked as if Senator Hitchcock would go to the Senate floor with a demand for instant discharge of the committee from the further consideration of the resolution. But he was dissuaded by one of Senator Thompson's Republican colleagues, who promised that immediate attention would be given the matter.

Senator Thompson, hardly relishing the position in which devotion to the Secretary of War had placed him, promised the Military Committee that he would call his bill up for consideration as soon as the matter came to him he would present it to the Senate.

On the other hand, the destruction of submarines is exceeding their construction by the enemy, and the margin is expected to increase as additional American destroyers give full swing to the war effort. They reveal that sinkings of submarines have fallen off to the point where new construction is exceeding the destruction even before American destroyers were full swing on the great building programme mapped out by the Shipping Board.

Motor Is Discussed.

In his letter Mr. Cammon said: "There has appeared to-day in all newspapers a statement made before the Senate with respect to the Liberty motor in the Bristol plane of great significance as throwing a vivid light on the entire subject of this unfortunate adventure in engineering design. It is stated that the motor overhauled, to a layman this means next to nothing; to an engineer it tells a big story and raises questions pregnant with importance. These questions are: 'Does this overhauled engine indicate a basic defectiveness of design, or can it be corrected by some expedient?'

Why was it not discovered on the testing stand long before the motor was put into the Bristol machine, and was it not due to improper methods of testing the motor?"

Cammon answers the first question by showing that the radiation of the motor is not sufficient, "because it was designed for an engine more efficient and better designed than the Liberty motor which was tried with it." The only way to overcome this defect, Cammon says, would be to put larger radiators on the motor, which would have been disastrous from a military point of view.

"A radiator 50 per cent. bigger than the present one," he says, "would at a speed of ninety miles an hour increase the power consumption, roughly, by more than 12 per cent."

Answering the second question, Cammon says the fact that the Liberty motor needs more radiation than the Bristol plane can give "could have been very easily established in any decent laboratory with such equipment as any engineer ought to know how to use."

Rummage Sale Starts for Soldiers' Smokes

OPENED yesterday to eager buyers at 41 West Forty-fifth street, and will run through the week, but more rummage is wanted; send it along.

Friday is Smoke Fund Night at the Century Theatre; a gay time is promised, with all the performers of "The Midnight Revue." Read about what is to be enjoyed there on page 8.

WARNING! THE SUN TO-BACCO FUND has no connection with any other fund, organization or publication. It employs no agents or solicitors.

Germans Assert Allies Lost 271 Planes in April

BERLIN, via London, May 13.—The official communication from General Headquarters today says:

The losses to the enemy aerial forces on the German front during April amounted to fifteen captive balloons and 271 airplanes, of which 122 fell behind our lines, while others were seen to fall beyond the enemy's positions. In aerial fighting we lost 123 airplanes and fourteen captive balloons.

PREMIER AIDED BY NORTHCLIFFE

Lloyd George's Enemies Discomfited by Editorial in London "Daily Mail."

NO EVIDENCE OF BREACH

Country Is Urged to Keep Him Where He Is to Avert Disaster.

Special Cable Despatch to The Sun.

LONDON, May 13.—Political enemies of Premier Lloyd George, who a few weeks ago thought they saw a serious breach between the Prime Minister and Viscount Northcliffe and hailed it with unconcealed joy, experienced a disagreeable surprise this morning when they read the following editorial in the *Daily Mail*:

"Lloyd George is by far the strongest personal force in British politics at this moment. He represents British democracy and the national will for victory with a completeness greatly beyond that of any other politician. Whatever his personal failings and the weaknesses of his administration, nobody doubts that Lloyd George means to win the war, and that his daring, eloquence and driving power are assets of incomparable value in this crisis. Therefore he is the right man in the right place."

"The feeling of the nation is to keep him where he is and to see that he is not forced out by any underhanded intrigue whatsoever. It has been abundantly proved that he has the unstinted confidence of the empire and the Allies. Telegrams of congratulation were received from all parts of the world except Germany and her vassal States in reference to the outcome of the Maurice affair."

Old Game Disregarded.

"The disappearance of Lloyd George from office would be regarded as a disaster to the whole allied cause. The old game long has been discredited and the new game, which is being played, is a mere pawn will increase in mischief unless the Government effectively outlasts the enemy. As for the Maurice affair, it has been squashed into Parliament. The Prime Minister has had a great accession of strength and should be able to use it for all his worth."

The *Evening Star*, which at the time of the reported break asked whether Northcliffe had dismised Lloyd George, has now written in its editorial: "Lloyd George is by far the strongest personal force in British politics at this moment. He represents British democracy and the national will for victory with a completeness greatly beyond that of any other politician. Whatever his personal failings and the weaknesses of his administration, nobody doubts that Lloyd George means to win the war, and that his daring, eloquence and driving power are assets of incomparable value in this crisis. Therefore he is the right man in the right place."

Continuing, the paper asks: "Why not get the whole lot about every man, woman and child who does not bow the knee to Lloyd George, Bonar Law, Milner and Curzon? Why not silence every warning voice?"

Beginning of Intrigue.

Loat Fraser, writing in the *Daily Mail* on the Maurice affair, says: "These intrigues date back to the beginning of the war, when a particular military clique which combined contempt for our allies with a belief in its own narrow attainments sought to gain unfettered authority."

"They developed rapidly last year, when our operations on land and sea had not had the results expected. The game was to blame the Government in order to screen our failures, which were due not to lack of men and munitions but to lack of vision and military brain power."

"Lloyd George and his colleagues determined to put an end to the system of fighting the war in compartments which had miserably collapsed. The policy of complete unity, which had been very easily established in any decent laboratory with such equipment as any engineer ought to know how to use."

"This country has to pay in blood and tears for the months wasted by the military clique, which was so jealous of its own authority that it kicked and conspired to the last. If unity of command had been adopted last autumn the Allies would be in a different position today."

TRENCHARD IN FRANCE.

Rothmere's Assistant Gets Important Post at Front.

LONDON, May 13.—Major-General Hugh Trenchard, whose recent resignation as chief of the air staff because of a disagreement with Baron Rothmere, then Secretary of State for the Air Forces, caused the latter to be criticized, has accepted the command of an important part of the British air force in France.

Announcement was made in the House of Commons today by Chancellor Andrew Bonar Law, the War Cabinet's spokesman.

PERSHING MEN ARE BEING SENT TO BATTLE LINE

War Secretary Says of Ottawa Tale, "Facts Are Exactly Otherwise."

ORIGIN IS MYSTERIOUS

Lord Reading Knows of No "War Committee of Cabinet" and Investigates Story.

LONDON, May 13.—The Associated Press was officially informed to-night that the statement sent out from Ottawa last night attributing to the War Committee of the British Cabinet the announcement that it had been decided not to use the American army on the western front until it became a complete and powerful force was due to an error, which has now been corrected.

Special Despatch to The Sun.

WASHINGTON, May 13.—Gen. Pershing's troops are being and will continue to be used in the battlefields of France as fast as they can be made ready for service, and they are not being held back until the American army is developed to full strength, as reported today in a statement from London by way of Ottawa.

Both Secretary of War Baker and the Earl of Reading, British Ambassador to the United States, denied the statement. Curiously enough no one here seems able to understand why the statement was made or just where it came from. It is credited as emanating from the "War Committee of the British Cabinet."

Neither Mr. Baker nor Lord Reading knows of any such committee. There is something peculiarly mysterious about the matter, which will be investigated by the British and American Governments.

Baker's Statement.

Secretary Baker authorized this announcement today:

"The statement made in the morning paper, purporting to come from Ottawa, seems to say that the American forces in France will not be used actively for the present, but will be conserved until they constitute a larger and independent American army."

"The facts are exactly otherwise. The American troops in France are now being used actively in battle and in the trenches. While all of the plans of the War Department look to the development of the American army as such and the creation of a distinctively American army, yet the various elements of it now in France are being used in such a way as are deemed most effective in accordance with the present situation, and placing all our forces at the disposal of the British and French commanders and the supreme commander."

Lord Reading said:

"The statement attributed to the British War Cabinet to the effect that the Allies are so confident that having been given the choice of a small immediate offensive, or of waiting until they are reinforced by a complete, powerful, self-supporting American army, they have chosen the latter, is diametrically opposed to the facts of the situation. It is a statement which has been received by me from the British War Cabinet and to all the requests which I have been asked by them to make to the United States Administration."

Medals of Honor Under Provisional Bill.

The medal of honor under the provisions of the bill will be presented by the President in the name of Congress to officers or enlisted men who "in action involving actual conflict with the enemy distinguish themselves conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty."

The medal of honor to be presented by the President takes the place of the Congressional Medal of Honor heretofore awarded only by Congressional act. This removes the chances for delay in the distribution of America's most significant military distinction. The medal of honor under the terms of its grant parallels the French Croix de Guerre "with palms."

To win the American medal of honor requires a deed of gallantry equivalent to that required to earn the Victoria Cross, the highest British distinction, but with the exception that the medal is given only where the act is performed under the observation of the soldier's commanding officer.

The distinguished service crosses will be awarded by the President, but not in the name of Congress. They will go to any man or woman who while serving in any capacity in the army since the outbreak of the present war "has distinguished himself or herself by extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an armed enemy."

Distinguished service medals will be awarded to any person serving in any capacity in the army since the outbreak of the present war who shall hereafter distinguish himself or herself by exceptional meritorious service in connection with military operations against an armed enemy."

The distinguished service cross practically parallels the French Croix de Guerre of the ordinary class or "Croix de Guerre." The distinguished service medal has no exact parallel in the allied services. Such decorations among our allies have various and sundry expressions in the form of special orders and crosses.

BUFFALO EXPRESS WRECKED.

Fireman Dead and Many Passengers Hurt Near Hudson.

SCHODACK, LINDEN, N. Y., May 13.—The Buffalo Express, on the New York Central, from New York was wrecked here late to-night.

The fireman of the engine was reported killed and a large number of passengers more or less seriously injured.

OUR MEN REPLY TO GERMAN GAS WITH A DOUBLE DOSE

Position of Enemy on Picardy Front Is Becoming More Intolerable as Americans Intrench Their Positions Firmly.

By the Associated Press.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE.

MAY 13.—A big enemy ammunition dump at Cantigny was fired by the American artillery this morning. At the same time two areas were started in Montdidier, followed by numerous explosions.

The weather continues misty and rainy. There was no infantry action today and only intermittent machine gun and rifle fire. The position of the Germans is becoming more and more intolerable, while the Americans are entrenching their positions more firmly. Any hopes the enemy might have had of breaking through in this sector are diminishing.

The Americans take nothing for granted, but return the enemy fire two to one, which is believed to be a new record in this sector. What appears to trouble the Germans most is that the Americans never turn back when the enemy uses gas. They give him his double dose of the same, with everything else the enemy tries.

Details of the fighting in the Lunenburg sector on Sunday tell of an encounter between American and German forces in No Man's Land. Three American snipers, dressed in camouflage suits, set out to discover a nest of sharpshooters who had been operating with much success and had killed one American officer and one private. They penetrated the enemy position and severely wounded a number of Germans. With an officer, standing a few feet away.

The Americans quickly opened fire and killed three officers and three men before they were obliged to withdraw. During their return one man became lost and three scout officers and four men returned in search of him. They again penetrated the enemy position, where they had another encounter with the Germans without casualties to the Americans. The missing man came in while the second party was looking for him.

When the searchers returned they found that one of their men was missing. He was last seen setting up a machine gun in a shell hole. Two officers went back to look for him and encountered a German outpost. In the fight that ensued the enemy was killed and his body was brought back to the American trenches.

In the Toul sector to-day many American planes were working over the enemy lines and observation balloons were up for the first time in many days. The American artillery last night and this morning directed a heavy and harassing fire on the German rear area, where it is known troops are billeted, and it is suspected that others are moving.

How an American alarm clock kept the whole German line guessing and caused the Germans useless expenditure of large quantities of machine gun and rifle ammunition all one night was related to-day.

The Americans had been trying for some time to draw the fire of certain enemy units. "Leave Fritz to me," said a happy faced young American, who, putting an alarm clock under his arm, disappeared into No Man's Land under cover of darkness and fastened the clock to a wire.

Soon the alarm rang, whereupon the Germans opened fire. The wire had been so arranged that the clock continued to ring intermittently, and each time drew a violent fire from the enemy. Meanwhile the Americans rested in their trenches and enjoyed a hearty laugh.

WILSON TO GIVE HONOR MEDALS

President Will Bestow Highest War Decoration in Name of Congress.

TWO OTHER REWARDS

Distinguished Service Cross and Medal Open to Both Men and Women.

Special Despatch to The Sun.

WASHINGTON, May 13.—There was received today at the Capitol for immediate introduction by the House and Senate Military committees Secretary Baker's bill to be substituted for all pending legislation providing for the award of decorations to the American heroes in the present struggle for democracy. The decorations are divided into three classes, two of which are new.

They are:

First, medals of honor; second, distinguished service crosses; third, distinguished service medals.

Medals of honor under the provisions of the bill will be presented by the President in the name of Congress to officers or enlisted men who "in action involving actual conflict with the enemy distinguish themselves conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of life above and beyond the call of duty."

The medal of honor to be presented by the President takes the place of the Congressional Medal of Honor heretofore awarded only by Congressional act. This removes the chances for delay in the distribution of America's most significant military distinction. The medal of honor under the terms of its grant parallels the French Croix de Guerre "with palms."

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ITALIANS RETAIN NEWLY WON POSITIONS, WHICH ARE ATTACKED.

ROME, May 13.—Austro-Hungarian troops made an attack yesterday on Mont Cornio, which recently was captured by the Italians. The War Office statement follows:

After an intense bombardment the enemy attacked our new positions on Mont Cornio. Attacked by our fire and counter-attacked he was obliged to retire with heavy losses.

Along the rest of the front there was the usual artillery and patrol activity.

ITALIANS MISTREATED.

Government Reports Gross Outrages by Austria Upon Prisoners.

WASHINGTON, May 13.—Italian prisoners in Austria are subjected to horrible outrages, says a despatch to the Italian Embassy received today from Rome.

"Never in the history of the civilized world have such outrages been registered," it reads. "The whole thing seems to be a systematic effort on the part of Austria to destroy the manhood of Italy. Austria is endeavoring in every possible way to surpass in cruelty and ferocity all of her accomplices."

PREMIER'S SHIP FLEES RAIDER.

Sir Thomas Hughes in Peril on Way From Australia to U. S.

A PACIFIC PORT, May 13.—Sir Thomas Hughes, Premier of Australia, arrived here today with a party of Australian officials en route to a war conference in London.

Passengers on the vessel said a German raider had attacked and damaged the British transport on which the Premier sailed.

It was asserted that following the attack the damaged transport returned to the port from which she sailed. The Premier and his party caught a train to another port and boarded the steamship which brought them here.

With Premier Hughes are William Ferguson Mauser, Prime Minister of New Zealand; Joseph Ward, leader and former Premier of New Zealand, and Robert Curran.

Indications That New Enemy Blow Will Be Between Arras and Albert.

FOCH'S RESERVES WAIT

Germans Must Pay Heavily for Any Ground They May Gain.

LYS SECTOR IS SHELLED

Guns Also Pour a Steady Fire on Lines in the Region of Kemmel.

LONDON, May 13.—Artillery activity on various portions of the fighting fronts in Picardy and Flanders continues without any definite move by the Germans to resume their grand offensive or any sign of a counter drive by the Allies. For practically two weeks now the Germans have been held at bay or have been pushed back in certain small sectors where the French and British made strategic gains. There is no disposition on the part of the Allies to believe that the enemy has abandoned his purpose, but each day finds the forces under Gen. Foch apparently in better positions.

Local operations reported within the last twenty-four hours seem to have no bearing upon the situation as a whole. Apparently the Germans continue to bring up men and materials, although their movements are suffering severely from the activities of allied airmen.

Activity South of Arras.

North of Serre the foe's guns have been especially active. The town, which is in the German lines, about thirteen miles north of Albert, marks the apex of the triangle formed by the German forces north by the line from Hebuterne to Bucquoy. It is here the military experts have predicted the enemy would launch a great flanking movement intended to turn the allied lines in the Arras region.

South and southwest of Hebuterne there are wooded hills upon which the Germans are concentrating their efforts several weeks ago. The danger at this point was realized fully and every foot of ground was contested, some of the positions originally lost, later having been recaptured in a series of spirited local encounters. Further to the west there are steep hills, in which the Allies are being held in a formidable defensive position, while to the north and northwest the country is more open and should lend itself more readily to the tactics of offensive attack used by the Germans recently.

Heavy Firing in Lys Sector.

North of Kemmel the British lines continue to be subjected to a heavy pounding. The British are practically intact, and apparently replying shot for shot with out any relative change in conditions. In the Lys sector, between the forest of Nieppe and Locon, there has been an intermittent bombardment of great severity.

Both French and British continue on the active and inactive parts of the front to harass the enemy with raids usually conducted by small parties and valuable chiefly for the information gained from prisoners. North of Nieppe it is believed a French detachment penetrated the enemy lines and brought back twenty Germans. Near St. Die a German raid was broken up.

The German delay in renewing the attack is believed to be due largely to the great drain made upon the reserves calling for the making over of many army commands. The allied reserve is believed to be practically intact, and there seems to be a feeling of confidence in Gen. Foch's policy of letting the foe wear himself out in a series of almost fruitless attacks, eventually yielding his small bits of terrain in return for a tremendous outlay of human lives.

Official Reports of Operations.

Following are the official reports on the fighting:

BRITISH (NIGHT).—The hostile artillery developed considerable activity early this morning north of Serre and has been active during the day on the southern portion of the British front and in the sector north of Albert. There is nothing further of special interest.

BRITISH (DAY).—The hostile artillery was active during the night in the Somme Valley and Albert sectors, also between Locon and the forest of Nieppe (Flanders front).

In the latter sector there were no events of importance along the front today with the exception of the bombardments, which became quite lively on both banks of the Aves River.

FRENCH (DAY).—Our artillery and the enemy's were active at certain points along the front north and south of the Aves.

In the more valley, southwest of Albert, a British partial attack was repulsed. At various points on the front the enemy continued his reconnoitering thrusts. In repulsing them we made prisoners on several occasions.

FRENCH REGIMENTS HONORED.

PARIS, May 13.—President Poincaré visited the battlefield yesterday and bestowed the red "fourragere" on two French regiments which had gained their position in the recent fighting.

Heretofore the Foreign Legion has been the only unit which has won the distinctive red, or Legion of Honor, colored sashettes by earning six citations.